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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Military Territory

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ORIGIN

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DATE:

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INFO.

DIST. 21 January 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

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1. Zgorzelec (Goerlitz) which had a prewar population of approximately 98,000 people has suffered very little damage. The western section of town divided by the Neisse River from the eastern part is occupied by the Soviet army; apart from the barracks there are no military installations. At the present time, there are only an estimated 200 to 300 men belonging to an armored unit stationed in the barracks. Few soldiers of the Soviet army and military vehicles are to be seen in the streets.
2. Besides the Komandatura, there is an MVD commando in Zgorzelec (Goerlitz) is located on Berlinerstrasse; and is of considerable strength. There are many informers who work for the MVD, most of whom are Germans and the rest are Russians wearing civilian clothing and mostly speaking good German. According to the residents, there are about one hundred of these Russian informers who live partly in the barracks, partly in private billets.
3. The section of town which is situated east of the Neisse river consists of about one third of the entire city area (named Goerlitz-Meuss). It contains the municipal power-stations and also the bulk of the barracks buildings. The largest barrack compound is the "Kleist-Kaserne", consisting of 13 single buildings. There are also the Courbiere and the Hermann-barracks with a total of seven or eight buildings. These three barracks compounds are located at the southern end of the eastern section of the city. Observations made repeatedly from the western bank of the Neisse river and extending beyond south of Zgorzelec (Goerlitz) disclosed a tight border control. Polish infantry men, some of them working in teams of twos, and equipped with automatic pistols, are patrolling the opposite bank of the Neisse at intervals of 50 to 100 meters. The bridges have been destroyed and it is possible to cross the border illegally by fording the river which, at some spots, only one meter deep; however, the Poles use their firearms freely, so that in most cases illegal crossing carries death.
4. According to informants who until recently were employed by the Poles, few Polish troops are stationed in Goerlitz. The barracks mentioned above are not overcrowded with the exception of the Kleist barracks which house the border commandos, consisting approximately of 100 to 150 men. According to informants there are no fortifications along the Neisse. (Comment: This contradicts other information). All reports agree that no military installations

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or units of any importance are located along wide stretches to the north or to the south of the city along the eastern bank of the Neisse river. These observations cover the area up to Muskau, a town situated 40 to 50 kilometers north of Zgorzelec (Gorlitz) which is divided into two parts by the Neisse river, with the eastern section occupied by the Poles. Refugees from this area who left very recently, report that no fortifications or troop concentrations are to be found along this border area.

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